

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Clark for the indication of allowance of claims 5-9. In response to the Office Action dated November 12, 2004, Applicants have canceled claims 10-23, without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, the pending rejections to claims 10-17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) are moot in view of the cancellation thereof. Also, Applicants have amended claim 1 so as to further address the pending rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. No new matter has been added.

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited.

Should there remain any outstanding issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney below so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

II. The Rejection Of Claims 1-4 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the claim limitation “wherein there exists no member that functions as a suspension lead during plastic encapsulation” recited by claim 1 is not clear. Although the Applicants do not agree with the Examiner’s conclusion, in an effort to advance prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite “wherein the die pad and the outer frame are connected to each other via the land portions and the connections.” Thus, it is

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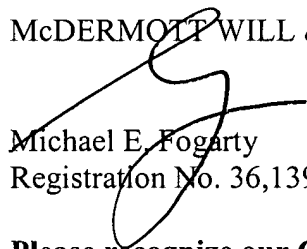
respectfully submitted that the pending rejections to claims 1-4 have been overcome in view of the foregoing amendment.

III. Conclusion

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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